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Vol. 8, No. 2  
Feb. 1978  
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PLEASE RETURN

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT

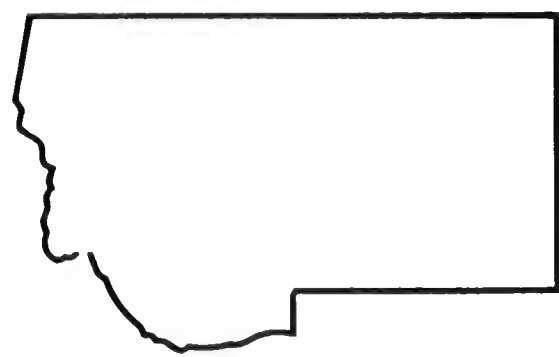
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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1978

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY  
DAVID E. FULLER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION  
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Volume 8      Number 2

Produced by:  
Research and Analysis  
in cooperation with the  
U. S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
and Bureau of Labor Statistics

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

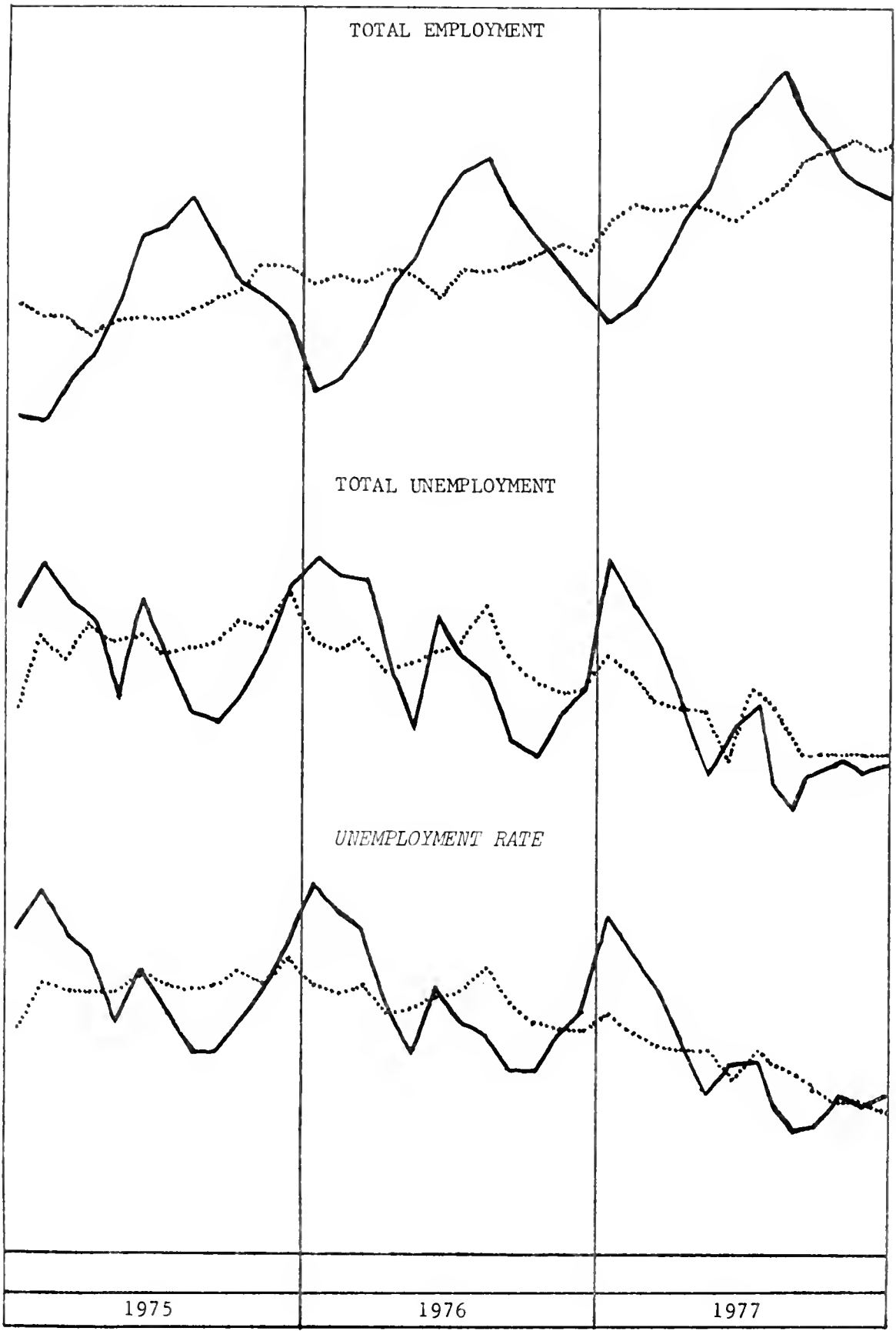
1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.
8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.
9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
 (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ..... )  
 1975 - 1977

(Thousands)

370  
360  
350  
340  
330  
320  
310  
300  
290  
280  
270

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



35  
30  
25  
20  
15

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(%)  
10  
9  
8  
7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2

1975

1976

1977



## STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS



In terms of the employment situation and the general economic outlook, Montana, early in 1978, remained on a seasonal course of restrained activity. While there are variations in the composition of the economic base from east to west within the State, one common influence exists - the weather. The lumber and wood products, construction, and agricultural industries all face the same limitations of Montana's climate. Particularly during the winter months, as evidenced by peak unemployment rates, these segments of the economy must gear down because of virtually

intolerable working conditions. Other industries are not directly concerned, yet the derivative effects of the general slowdown of out-door activities spill over into all sectors of the economy.

During this dormant stage of the year, the insufficiency of relevant economic data makes it difficult to analyze the potential for further growth this spring. Nonetheless, indications from manufacturing are that this potential is real. The average work week continues to hover at near record levels, while layoffs and new hires have been stable. Even employment has not decreased as much as could be expected in light of activities in lumber and wood products, and in primary smelting.

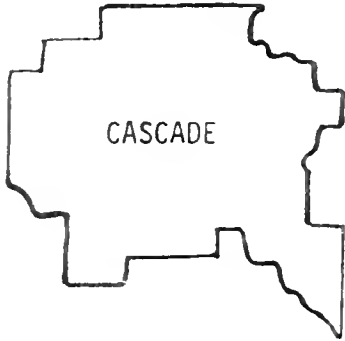
Another positive note is the behavior of the real spendable earnings index in recent months. The latest computations place average weekly real spendable wages at \$95.44. This is the highest index value on record. There is some upward pressure on the index at this time of the year because lower paid workers are the first personnel subject to layoffs; however, the basic underlying trend continues to be positive regardless of any atypical influences. These increases should help maintain spending momentum until the economy heats up in early spring.

On the whole, the economy is functioning as expected and no signs of an economic downturn have been isolated. The feeling here as well as nationally is that the construction industry should enjoy at least one more good year, and there exists an equally favorable outlook in manufacturing. In addition, while the need for conservation of energy remains, the crisis in hydroelectric power and its detrimental effects on the economy have somewhat dissipated.

The only negative factor in the economic future is the persisting uncertainty in agriculture. Any relief there would surely aid further improvements in the economy. The effects on employment levels would be minimal, but any increases in farm receipts would have a directly positive influence on personal income levels, providing more spending support for expansion in all sectors of the economy.

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, the unemployment situation took a negative turn, as the number of unemployed advanced 500 from December, which brought the total to 2,600. The jobless rate hit 7.5%, rising noticeably from December's 6% rate. In contrast, however, 8% of the civilian labor pool was out of work during January a year ago.



In terms of the ranks of the employed, January's level fell 700 from last month, to 31,700 persons. This is largely a normal seasonal occurrence. In fact, January's level is 2,100 above the total for January 1977, representing a 7.1% yearly increase.

The Great Falls Job Service office reported a noticeable jump in new and additional claims from workers in the construction, manufacturing and trade industries.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In terms of economic activity, January has historically been a slow month in Great Falls and the State as a whole. The agriculture, construction, and other outdoor related industries reach their lowest ebb, as snow and cold weather force shutdowns of outdoor projects. This was reflected in January's unemployment insurance claim statistics, as a flood of new and additional claims were filed from workers in these categories. At the same time, the area's important retail sector also generally enters a slack period, with this year being no exception. Often spending two to three months discretionary income on holiday purchases, many consumers simply do not have the available funds to spur sales in January. Also, many potential consumers forego buying of goods and services during the early months of a new year, in anticipation of further tax liabilities. However, this point is often mitigated by the fact that some purchases are made by those expecting tax refunds. These factors have a combined negative affect on the local economy through reduced cash receipts from the business community.

The labor market is also hurt due to layoffs and a reduction in hours worked, which in turn causes an impeded flow of personal income. This should by no means be interpreted as a sway from the upward economic movements of 1978, but rather as a normal cooling off period for the economy. Also this analysis is not intended to portray the complete shut-down of outdoor related work. Some construction projects are at the stage where inside work can be accomplished despite severe weather conditions, and a certain number of ranch labor must be maintained to help with winter feeding activities.

The area did receive some bad news during the past month, in that it was announced that Malmstrom Air Force Base would have to cut back 54 civilian jobs by April 1. Of this number, 30 employees will be actually laid off, with the other 24 positions being eliminated through normal attrition. Being a primary industry in the Great Falls community, derived negative effects will likely be experienced.

As an addition to last month's annual recap issue, it should be also stated that the 1977 valuation of building permits issued by the city of Great Falls rose \$5.5 million over 1976 figures.



## BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

### Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Billings SMSA boasted a civilian labor force totaling 50,700 persons for January. This compares with a total of 49,300 persons for the same month one year ago. On an annual basis, this represents an increase of only 2.8%, not remarkable in comparison with trends set during the past years for this fast growing area. However, one month's data are far from enough to establish any trend for 1978.

After hovering around 4.2% for the past several months, the rate of unemployment rose to 5.8% in January. However, when the effects of seasonality are taken out, January's rate appears positive - 4.1% compared with 4.5% for December.



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

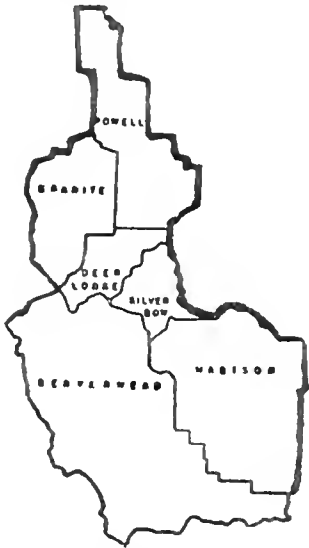
Primary economic activity in Billings centered around the retail sector during January, as most retailers offered inventory clearance sales, following an excellent holiday sales period. New competing establishments continue to enter the local market, and in an area where the retail industry employs one out of every four workers, expansion has far reaching effects on employment levels.

In January the construction sector moved into its most inactive period, with the city issuing only 47 permits for the month, at a valuation of about \$1.25 million. This closely follows last year's trend, when 50 building permits were issued at a value of \$1.15 million. The major project for the month was a community center for the city at an estimated cost of \$376,000. In the residential sector, permits were issued for 25 single family homes and two duplexes. Although this does not represent a flood of new construction activity, it is normal for January. Last month, December, was more active with total permit valuation of \$2.8 million. Major projects included a \$180,000 fast food restaurant; a new \$520,000 motel with an expected completion date in July; a 34,000 square feet freezer facility for a local wholesale food distributor firm at a cost of \$926,000; and a new \$148,000 body shop for an area automotive dealer.

If January's statistics provide an indication of the trend for 1978, business formations appear positive. A total of 66 new firms entered the SMSA in January. If annualized, this pace could generate an increase over 1977's record total.

In general, economic activity is now at a low point in this area. A heavier-than-normal snowfall has prevented work on many new outside projects, and has also discouraged traffic to retail centers.

## ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA

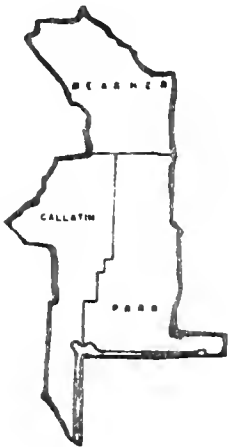


### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

This area received more bad news in late December, with the announcement of the closure of Arbiter plant in Anaconda. A total of 190 workers will be affected when the gradual shutdown is completed. At this time only about 30 maintenance crew workers are still employed. This in turn affected the leach and precipitator operations in Butte, where 80 workers were also laid off. Because of poor market conditions for copper and the resultant low prices, this layoff had been feared for several months. This can only be described as gloomy news in an area with an already over-supplied labor market, especially for skilled trades workers. The only short-term help could come from possible federal assistance under the 1974 Trade Readjustment Act. If granted, this would provide either supplemental unemployment compensation, aid assisted training or relocation assistance.

Anaconda residents had barely received this information, when a spokesman for the area smelter announced that the smelter operation will be shut down during May and June. Only a small number of maintenance and specialty workers will be working during the shutdown period. The economic impact of this temporary closure will undoubtedly trigger effects in other industries, particularly trade, finance, and services.

## BOZEMAN LMA



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

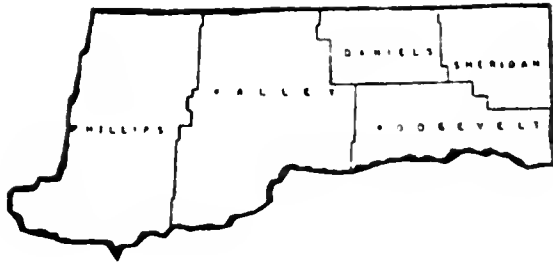
Unlike many areas in the State, January's severe weather conditions did not create all negative effects on the Bozeman economy. With two major ski recreation areas and a snowmobiling center, (West Yellowstone) within its borders, some additional jobs and outside dollars are provided to the area, especially during holiday periods. This past month proved to be a particularly profitable period with the more than adequate snowfall. However, the motel, gasoline, restaurant and other service oriented industries derive the majority of the benefits. Meanwhile, the construction, logging, and other outside oriented industries still suffer the plight of the cold weather and heavy snow.

In December, 23 building permits were issued in the city of Bozeman at a valuation exceeding \$1.5 million. Highlighting December's action was a contract for a new Senior Citizen social center at an expected cost of \$500,594. Also issued during the month were permits for two four-plexes and one tri-plex apartment and new office building valued at

\$235,000.

During the past year, we have mentioned the problems currently facing Montana's lumber and wood industry. That is, with higher stumpage prices and dwindling supplies of available Forest Service timber, Montana firms have found it increasingly difficult to obtain enough lumber produced at competitive prices. This problem was evident at a recent Forest Service auction. Mill owners from Livingston, Belgrade, Townsend and Dillon scrambled for the timber, paying five times the estimated value of the raw products, And with this competitive atmosphere, a mill in Livingston and in Belgrade have reported that they are short the inventory needed to profitably run their operations.

## GLASGOW LMA

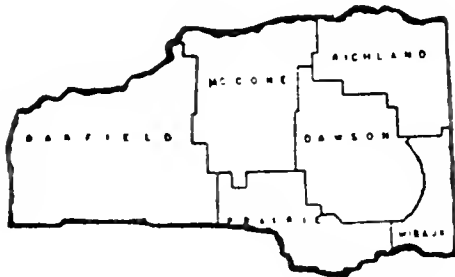


### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Although present conditions in the area are indicative of a winter downturn, the prospects for economic expansion this spring are greater here than in most areas of State. The main thrust for this optimistic viewpoint is the redevelopment of the U.S. Air Force facilities in Glasgow. While much of the program remains in the planning stages, the potential for growth that this opportunity provides should help revitalize the area's economy. In 1968

following the closure of the federal complex, population in the area decreased by over 50%. The impact on the local economy was reflected in rising unemployment rates and the general contraction of business activity. Now it seems reasonable that with the support of the local citizenry, this latest venture will end successfully. At present, a job skill education center and a state alcoholic treatment complex occupy space in the industrial park, and other firms are conducting feasibility studies. It is hoped that in the near future light manufacturing can be attracted to the area and further broaden the economic base of the industrial facility.

## GLENDIVE LMA



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

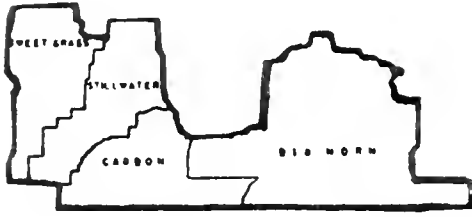
The weather upstaged other controlling factors in the area's economy during February. In the face of the worst blizzard conditions in many years, businesses virtually shut their doors in some towns as the main concern became the general public safety. In the agricultural sector the weather was equally unwelcome. After another year of depressed prices and escalating costs, livestock losses due to frigid temperatures and snow can do nothing less

than force some ranchers into an even more tenuous financial position.

Another major influence on economic conditions in the Sidney area was the completion of sugar beet processing. Over 200 layoffs are expected this month resulting in a sizeable jump in the unemployment rate for March. Although this occurrence does adversely affect area businesses, it is by no means an unexpected event. The beet industry is highly seasonal and most workers are prepared to seek employment in other areas.

Despite the negative aspects of recent economic activity, this labor market area remains one of the most stable in terms of employment. On occasion atypical events create temporary problems, but on the whole the area maintains an active and sound economy.

## HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



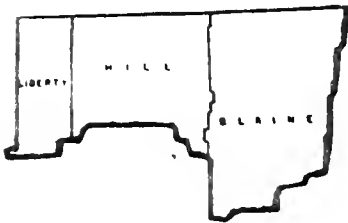
### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Hardin-Red Lodge LMA has begun the new year on generally solid footing, with tentative plans announced for the reopening of a coal mine near Red Lodge. With approval from State officials, the mine is expected to be open by early summer and could provide up to thirty jobs for local people. If approval is received and the project gets underway, derivative economic factors could be yet another boost for the area's economy.

New businesses in the area also offer good economic news. Thirteen new firms were established in the LMA during January, compared with eight in the previous month, and only five in January 1977.

Overall employment prospects for area job-seekers should improve with the recent opening of a Montana Job Service sub-office in Hardin. The facility will deal with job placement and job training, while unemployment insurance assistance will continue to be handled through the Billings local office.

## HAVRE LMA



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The economic scene in this area continues to reflect the deep freeze of winter. Nearly every form of industry in the region is experiencing an ongoing curtailment of work activity due to the severity of current conditions; trade and service establishments appear to be the only major sources of economic sustenance. Reports from the local Job Service office in Havre tend to support this conclusion, registering most of the recent unemployment claims activity from construction, mining, and government workers.

New business formations, one indicator of economic activity, also seemed to show a slumping posture in January. Twelve new firms were registered for the month, compared with seventeen during December. On the bright side, however, January's figure was slightly better than the eight new firms recorded in January 1977.

## HELENA LMA

### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Following typical statewide winter trends, the Helena labor area is currently experiencing the year's greatest period of dormancy in virtually every economic category. There has been some recent need for individuals in professional and technical positions; however, reports indicate a high level in unemployment claims volume at the local Job Service office, and generally low rates of hiring in the business community.

Two isolated projects which are presently ongoing are completion of the new Federal building and the airport terminal. Work on the Federal offices has been sporadic in recent months, with a variety of project interruptions taking place. In recent weeks tradesmen have gone back to work on the structure after being idled due to a lack of funds for payment, and completion is hoped for in the near future.

Although slowed by poor conditions recently, the latter project continues also. Latest reports indicate that work is progressing well on the airport terminal, and that completion is anticipated by late summer.

In the agricultural sector, area ranchers are experiencing some difficulties in feeding their livestock. An abundance of snow has hampered this vital winter process, and some employment has become available as needed, for stock feeders. In some circles, preliminary expectations are for a strong employment year in agriculture.

The number of new businesses in the LMA is twenty-five for the month of January. This is a solid improvement over the fifteen firms recorded for the same month in 1977. Again, though, the effects of winter are highlighted by a decline in business formation from last month's level.

## KALISPELL LMA

### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic conditions throughout this region have shown very little change during the past few weeks. The lumber and wood products sector of industry dominates the area, and working conditions for loggers in particular are often prohibitive at this time of year. Construction, too, is a very important economic force, and the severity of winter has effectively reduced any substantial progress in the LMA. These observations are borne out by local Job Service offices which report a preponderance of unemployment insurance claims arising from the lumber and construction industries.

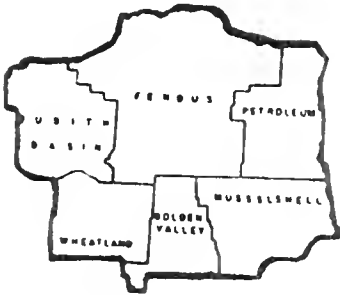
At the present time, thoughts seem to be turning to Spring and Summer activity. In Libby, the Corps of Engineers is already beginning to take applications for summer employment, and recent indications suggest that the U.S. Forest Service will attempt to enlarge their summer youth program.

In other developments, a large firm operating out of Yaak was awarded a contract of nearly \$14 million to install four turbine electric power generating units at the Libby dam. Work is expected to begin later in 1978 and may provide jobs for up to sixty persons. With the addition, electric power output is expected to double by 1983. In another major project, with work to begin in March, a firm has been awarded a \$2.1 million contract to install storm sewers for the city of Libby. Employment should reach twenty to thirty persons.

Generally speaking, the economy of the Kalispell LMA is in the process of gearing up for the better weather and resultant activity increases in all areas.

## LEWISTOWN LMA

### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook

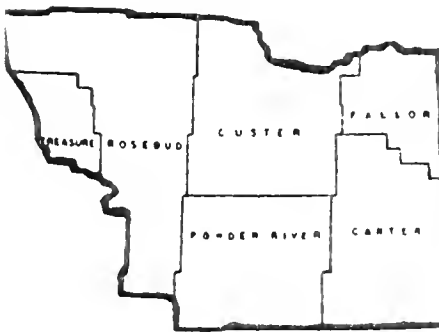


New business formations for the Lewistown labor area in January equal the number for January 1977, with a total of seven. However, they are evenly distributed over four counties this year as opposed to all seven being Fergus County a year ago.

Weather has been the main story in Central Montana with heavy snowfall contributing to the curtailment of most outside activities other than snow removal. The new sawmill in Judith Gap began production the first part of January and should be in full production within 6 months. The project to improve the facilities at the missile site, weather permitting, should be in progress and will contribute greatly to the local economy.

## MILES CITY LMA

### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook

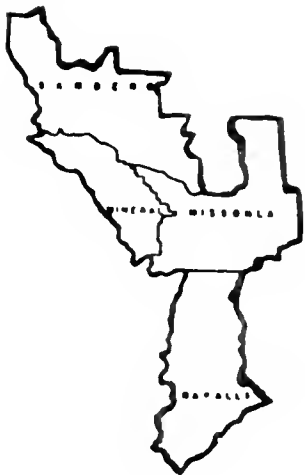


The Miles City labor area economy reflects a stable economy for January. This is partially confirmed by the fact there were two new business starts in the area for January, the same as for January a year ago.

A labor dispute involving 100 workers at Colstrip Units 1 and 2 temporarily disrupted operations in mid-January, but a settlement was quickly reached and all workers have since returned to **work**.

The Miles City Job Service office reports that supply is meeting demand for jobs in most sectors. The construction industry has contributed most to the claims load as the weather has curtailed most outside activities.

## MISSOULA LMA



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In January, 73 new businesses were created in the four-county area, compared to 51 for the same month last year. This shows an increase of 43% over the same period a year ago.

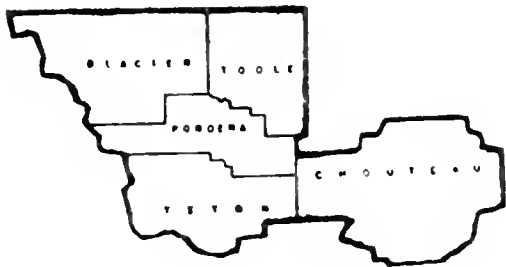
One disconcerting event in Missoula was the dismissal of 50-80 supportive staff members at the University due to a budget cut. These were in addition to the cuts made in late 1977 involving teaching staff.

Plans have been announced for a \$3.2 million project to renovate and expand one of the high schools in Missoula. The plan includes construction of a building to house the library, science and industrial arts departments.

The city of Stevensville received approval for a \$450,000 EDA grant to improve their water system, and in another LMA development, Corvallis voters approved a \$398,000 school bond issue for a new physical education complex. A tentative completion date of November 1978 has been set.

The effects of heavy snow are still influencing the entire area, with some curtailment of employment in the lumber industry.

## SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



### Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Shelby - Cut Bank labor area economy has remained relatively steady. There were 23 new business formations in January; 3 less than for January of a year ago.

The Cut Bank Job Service office states that hiring activity in oilfields and retail trades was well ahead of January a year ago and has provided some impetus to that area's economy. They also announced

that plans for a new sixteen unit shopping center are being formulated, but that no final decision has been reached.

A Major hotel-motel complex in Cut Bank has announced an expansion and renovation project including an additional 30 motel units to begin early in the spring.

The economic outlook for the area looks very good largely because of long awaited moisture which should improve the agricultural prospects.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

January 1978

<u>Program</u>	<u>New Enrollees</u>	<u>Job Placements</u>	<u>End of Month Enrollment</u>
WIN	298	75	2215
CETA-CEP	92	39	274
CETA-INST.	51	12	404
CETA-OJT	37	33	158
JOB CORPS	66	19	375
PSE TITLE II	72	20	439
PSE TITLE VI	115	46	834
PSE Title VI "A"	218	0	681
CETA - AWE	42	10	101

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.<sup>1/</sup>  
(1967 = 100)

*Percent Change From:*

<u>Group</u>	<u>Jan. 1978</u>	<u>Dec. 1977</u>	<u>Jan. 1977</u>
All Items	187.2	.6%	6.8%

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED<sup>2/</sup>

January 1978

<u>Social Characteristics</u>	<u>Percent of Total Covered Unemployment</u>
Non-White	5.8%
Female	23.5%
Youth	9.0%
Over 45	23.4%

<sup>1/</sup> The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.



Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

## MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						Montana	U. S.	
<u>1976</u>								
January	316.8	284.0	263.1	20.9	32.8	10.4	8.8	*
February	317.8	287.0	263.9	23.1	30.8	9.7	8.7	*
March	325.7	295.1	267.0	28.1	30.6	9.4	8.1	*
April	333.4	307.8	272.8	35.0	25.6	7.7	7.4	*
May	336.4	314.0	277.7	36.3	22.4	6.6	6.7	*
June	353.9	325.2	283.5	41.7	28.7	8.1	8.0	.1
July	362.2	335.8	290.9	44.9	26.4	7.3	7.8	.1
August	364.9	339.7	291.3	48.4	25.2	6.9	7.6	.1
September	351.5	329.9	291.9	38.0	21.6	6.2	7.4	.1
October	340.6	319.7	287.2	32.5	20.9	6.1	7.2	.1
November	338.6	315.4	287.2	28.2	23.2	6.9	7.4	.1
December	335.8	311.1	286.7	24.4	24.7	7.3	7.4	.1
1976 Avg.	339.8	313.7	280.3	33.4	26.1	7.7	7.7	.1
<u>1977</u>								
January	324.5	296.9	274.3	22.6	27.6	8.5	8.3	.1
February	328.1	301.3	276.5	24.8	26.8	8.2	8.5	.1
March	336.3	310.8	280.9	29.9	25.5	7.6	7.9	.1
April	344.7	322.8	285.8	37.0	21.9	6.3	6.9	.1
May	349.0	329.7	291.5	38.2	19.3	5.5	6.4	.1
June	365.1	343.9	300.4	43.5	21.2	5.8	7.5	.2
July	373.6	353.0	306.5	46.5	20.6	5.5	7.0	3.3
August	380.9	361.0	311.2	49.8	19.9	5.2	6.8	.2
September	364.8	346.7	307.9	38.8	18.1	5.0	6.6	.1
October	354.9	337.1	304.1	33.0	17.8	5.0	6.3	.5
November	350.7	331.0	302.6	28.4	19.7	5.6	6.4	.1
December	346.4	326.0	301.6	24.4	20.4	5.9	6.0	.2
1977 Avg.	351.6	330.0	295.3	34.7	21.6	6.1	7.0	.4
<u>1978</u>								
January	342.4	316.9	<b>294.4</b>	22.5	25.5	7.5	7.0	.2
February	345.4	320.9	296.4	24.5	24.5	7.1		.2
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

<sup>1/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

<sup>2/</sup> Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

\* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

## RESIDENCE DATA

Table II  
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)Civilian Labor Force  
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						County	State	
<u>1976</u>								
January	30.5	27.4	26.6	.8	3.1	<i>10.3</i>	<i>10.4</i>	*
February	30.6	27.7	26.8	.9	2.9	9.5	9.7	*
March	31.8	28.8	27.7	1.1	3.0	9.5	9.4	*
April	32.2	29.7	28.3	1.4	2.5	7.8	7.7	*
May	32.7	30.4	29.0	1.4	2.3	7.1	6.6	*
June	34.3	31.1	29.5	1.6	3.2	9.4	8.1	*
July	33.9	31.0	29.2	1.8	2.9	8.4	7.3	*
August	34.0	31.4	29.5	1.9	2.6	7.7	6.9	*
September	33.0	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.1	6.5	6.2	*
October	33.0	30.8	29.5	1.3	2.2	6.7	6.1	*
November	33.1	30.8	29.7	1.1	2.3	6.9	6.9	*
December	31.0	28.8	27.8	1.0	2.2	7.0	7.3	*
1976 Avg.	32.5	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.6	8.0	7.7	*
<u>1977</u>								
January	32.2	29.6	28.7	.9	3.0	8.0	8.5	*
February	32.3	30.1	29.1	1.0	2.2	6.8	8.2	*
March	33.1	30.9	29.7	1.2	2.2	6.7	7.6	*
April	33.8	32.0	30.5	1.5	1.8	5.4	6.3	*
May	34.4	32.6	31.1	1.5	1.8	5.2	5.5	*
June	35.7	33.7	32.0	1.7	2.2	5.6	5.8	*
July	35.8	33.8	32.0	1.8	2.0	5.6	5.5	.8
August	35.8	33.8	31.8	2.0	2.0	5.6	5.2	*
September	35.6	33.6	32.1	1.5	2.0	5.5	5.0	*
October	35.6	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.0	5.7	5.0	.4
November	34.8	32.8	31.7	1.1	1.8	5.3	5.6	*
December	34.5	32.4	31.4	1.0	2.1	6.0	5.9	*
1977 Avg.	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.1	.1
<u>1978</u>								
January	34.3	31.7	30.8	.9	2.6	7.5	7.5	*
February	<i>34.6</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>31.2</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>7.1</i>	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

<sup>1/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.<sup>2/</sup> Non-additive - included in total employment.

\* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.  
Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.  
Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

## BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

RESIDENCE DATA

Civilian Labor Force  
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						County	State	
<u>1976</u>								
January	45.8	42.1	41.1	1.0	3.7	8.1	10.4	*
February	45.8	42.5	41.4	1.1	3.3	7.1	9.7	*
March	46.7	43.3	42.0	1.3	3.4	7.3	9.4	*
April	49.2	46.3	44.7	1.6	2.9	5.8	7.7	*
May	48.8	46.5	44.8	1.7	2.3	4.7	6.6	*
June	51.2	47.7	45.8	1.9	3.5	6.8	8.1	*
July	51.0	47.9	45.8	2.1	3.1	6.2	7.3	*
August	50.6	47.7	45.5	2.2	2.9	5.7	6.9	*
September	51.3	48.8	47.1	1.7	2.5	4.8	6.2	*
October	50.4	48.0	46.5	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
November	50.5	48.0	46.7	1.3	2.5	4.9	6.9	*
December	50.6	47.8	46.7	1.1	2.8	5.6	7.3	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.9	1.5	2.9	5.9	7.7	*
<u>1977</u>								
January	49.3	46.1	45.1	1.0	3.2	6.5	8.5	*
February	49.7	46.7	45.6	1.1	3.0	6.1	8.2	*
March	50.5	47.8	46.4	1.4	2.7	5.4	7.6	*
April	51.2	48.9	47.2	1.7	2.3	4.5	6.3	*
May	51.7	49.5	47.7	1.8	2.2	4.2	5.5	*
June	52.3	50.1	48.1	2.0	2.2	4.2	5.8	*
July	53.0	50.8	48.7	2.1	2.2	4.1	5.5	.1
August	53.5	51.3	49.0	2.3	2.2	4.0	5.2	.1
September	54.0	51.9	50.1	1.8	2.1	3.9	5.0	.1
October	53.0	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.1	4.0	5.0	.1
November	52.7	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.1	3.9	5.6	.1
December	52.2	50.0	48.9	1.1	2.2	4.2	5.9	.1
1977 Avg.	51.9	49.5	47.9	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
<u>1978</u>								
January	50.7	47.8	46.8	1.0	2.9	5.8	7.5	.1
February	51.1	48.2	47.1	1.1	2.9	5.6	7.1	.1
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

\* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

## MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry  
January 1978

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month	
				Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS <sup>1/</sup> .....	342.4	346.4	324.5	-4.0	17.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS .....	316.9	326.0	296.9	-9.1	20.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture .....	22.5	24.4	22.6	-1.9	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS .....	25.5	20.4	27.6	5.1	-2.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted <sup>2/</sup> .....	7.5	5.9	8.5	1.6	-1.0
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted <sup>2/</sup> .....	5.5	5.6	6.4	-.1	-.9
-----					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data) ..	263.8	269.7	246.5	-5.9	17.3
-----					
<u>MANUFACTURING</u> .....	23.7	23.7	23.9	0	-.2
<u>Durable Goods</u> .....	15.0	15.0	15.1	0	-.1
24 Lumber and Wood Products .....	8.8	9.2	9.1	-.4	-.3
33 Primary Metal Industries .....	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Other Durable Goods .....	2.9	2.5	2.7	.4	.2
<u>Non-durable Goods</u> .....	8.7	8.7	8.8	0	-.1
20 Food and Kindred Products .....	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	-.1
27 Printing and Publishing .....	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
29 Petroleum and Coal Products .....	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Other Non-durable Goods .....	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
-----					
<u>MINING</u> .....	6.6	6.6	6.0	0	.6
10 Metal Mining .....	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	-.1
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining ...	1.7	1.7	1.4	0	.3
15 Oil and Gas Extraction .....	2.7	2.7	2.3	0	.4

<u>CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION</u> .....	13.1	15.3	10.8	-2.2	2.3
15 General Building Contractors .....	4.5	6.1	3.8	-1.6	.7
16 Heavy Construction Contractors .....	2.8	3.4	2.5	-.6	.3
17 Special Trade Contractors .....	5.8	5.8	4.5	0	1.3
<u>TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES</u> .....	20.7	20.7	19.6	0	1.1
40 Railroad Transportation .....	6.4	6.4	6.3	0	.1
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad .....	6.2	6.2	5.6	0	.4
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services ..	8.1	8.1	7.5	0	.6
<u>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE</u> .....	65.7	67.9	61.8	-2.2	3.9
Wholesale Trade .....	16.4	16.5	14.9	-.1	1.5
Retail Trade .....	49.3	51.4	46.9	-2.1	2.4
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories ..	8.9	8.9	7.8	0	1.1
54 Food Stores .....	7.1	7.3	6.6	-.2	.5
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations .....	7.4	7.4	8.0	0	-.6
58 Eating and Drinking Places .....	16.8	18.7	15.3	-1.9	1.5
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc. ...	9.1	9.1	9.2	0	-.1
<u>FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE</u> .....	11.9	12.0	10.9	-.1	1.0
<u>SERVICES</u> .....	49.3	50.3	46.1	-1.0	3.2
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places .....	6.5	7.2	5.1	-.7	1.4
72 Personal Services .....	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	.2
80 Medical and other Health Services .....	16.0	16.0	14.9	0	1.1
Other Services .....	24.2	24.5	23.7	-.3	.5
<u>GOVERNMENT</u> .....	72.8	73.2	67.4	-.4	5.4
91 Federal Government .....	14.4	14.5	13.1	-.1	1.3
92 State Colleges and Universities .....	8.9	8.9	9.1	0	-.2
92 Other State Government .....	11.4	11.3	10.9	.1	.5
93 Local Education .....	24.7	25.0	21.8	-.3	2.9
93 Other Local Government .....	13.4	13.5	12.5	-.1	.9

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1977 benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

## RESIDENCE DATA

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA *in italics*)

Table V

## GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

## Employment by Industry

January 1978

*in Thousands*

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month from:	
				Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS <sup>1/</sup> .....	34.3	34.5	32.2	-.2	2.1
EMPLOYED PERSONS .....	31.7	32.4	29.6	-.7	2.1
Persons Employed in Agriculture .....	.9	1.0	.9	-.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS .....	2.6	2.1	2.6	.5	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted <sup>2/</sup> .....	7.5	6.0	8.0	1.5	-.5
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted <sup>2/</sup> ..	6.1	6.2	6.5	-.1	-.4
<hr/>					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data) .....	29.5	30.0	27.5	-.5	2.0
Manufacturing .....	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
Contract Construction .....	1.6	1.8	1.6	-.2	0
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Trade .....	9.9	10.2	8.7	-.3	1.2
Wholesale Trade .....	2.9	2.9	2.5	0	.4
Retail Trade .....	7.0	7.3	6.2	-.3	.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate ....	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	.1
Services and Mining .....	6.6	6.6	6.1	0	.5
Government .....	6.2	6.2	5.9	0	.3
Federal Government .....	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1
State and Local Government .....	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	.2

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

<sup>2/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.  
Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Table VI  
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

January 1978

*in Thousands*

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1978		Dec. 1977		Net Changes to Current Month from:	
	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS <sup>1/</sup> .....	50.7	52.2	49.3	-1.5	1.4	
EMPLOYED PERSONS .....	47.8	50.0	46.1	-2.2	1.7	
Persons Employed in Agriculture .....	1.0	1.1	1.0	-.1	0	
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS .....	2.9	2.2	3.2	.7	-.3	
<i>Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted</i> <sup>2/</sup> .....	5.8	4.2	6.5	1.6	-.7	
<i>Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted</i> <sup>2/</sup> ..	4.5	4.2	5.2	.3	-.7	
<hr/>						
<i>NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS</i>						
<i>(Establishment Data)</i> .....						
<i>Manufacturing</i> .....	3.6	3.7	3.6	-.1	0	
<i>Contract Construction</i> .....	2.6	2.7	2.1	-.1	.5	
<i>Transportation and Public Utilities</i> ...	3.8	3.8	3.5	0	.3	
<i>Trade</i> .....	13.9	15.1	13.2	-1.2	.7	
<i>Wholesale Trade</i> .....	4.7	5.5	4.6	-.8	.1	
<i>Retail Trade</i> .....	9.2	9.6	8.6	-.4	.6	
<i>Finance, Insurance and Real Estate</i> ....	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1	
<i>Services and Mining</i> .....	8.1	8.4	7.9	-.3	.2	
<i>Government</i> .....	8.4	8.4	8.2	0	.2	
<i>Federal Government</i> .....	1.5	1.5	1.8	0	-.3	
<i>State and Local Government</i> .....	6.9	6.9	6.4	0	.5	

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

<sup>2/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.  
Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS<sup>1/</sup>Civilian Labor Force  
in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978
STATEWIDE	350.7	346.4	342.4	331.0	326.0	316.9	19.7	20.4	25.5	5.6	5.9	7.5
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.6	34.5	34.3	32.8	32.4	31.7	1.8	2.1	2.6	5.3	6.0	7.5
BILLINGS SMSA	52.7	52.2	50.7	50.6	50.0	47.8	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.9	4.2	5.8
<sup>2/</sup> BALANCE OF STATE <sup>2/</sup>	363.4	259.7	257.4	247.6	243.6	237.4	15.8	16.1	20.0	6.0	6.2	7.8
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.9	33.9	33.6	31.6	31.5	30.9	2.3	2.4	2.7	6.7	7.0	8.1
BOZEMAN	24.6	24.9	24.3	23.4	23.7	22.8	1.2	1.2	1.5	5.0	4.7	6.3
GLASGOW	16.7	16.7	16.2	15.8	15.9	15.1	.9	.8	1.1	5.3	5.1	6.8
GLENDIVE	14.6	14.0	13.7	14.2	13.6	13.0	.4	.4	.7	2.9	3.1	5.1
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.0	10.8	10.5	.6	.7	.9	5.4	5.7	7.8
HAVRE	13.3	13.1	12.7	12.8	12.5	11.9	.5	.6	.8	3.5	4.6	6.4
HELENA	26.0	26.2	25.7	24.6	24.8	24.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	5.3	5.3	6.4
KALISPELL	32.5	32.6	33.0	29.8	29.7	29.3	2.7	2.9	3.7	8.3	8.9	11.1
LEWISTOWN	10.4	10.3	9.8	10.0	9.7	9.0	.4	.6	.8	4.1	6.1	8.2
MILES CITY	15.2	14.6	14.4	14.5	13.9	13.5	.7	.7	.9	4.5	5.0	6.4
MISSOULA	47.2	47.2	46.2	44.1	43.8	42.3	3.1	3.4	3.9	6.5	7.2	8.5
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.9	16.7	16.3	15.9	15.8	15.0	1.0	.9	1.3	5.8	5.5	8.1

<sup>1/</sup> A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.<sup>2/</sup> Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.



TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS<sup>1/</sup>

## Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jan. 1978	Jan. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Jan. 1978	Jan. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Jan. 1978	Jan. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978	Jan. 1978	Jan. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978
STATEWIDE	342.4	324.5	5.5	316.9	296.9	6.7	25.5	27.6	-2.1	7.5	8.5	-1.0
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.3	32.2	6.5	31.7	29.6	7.1	2.6	2.6	0	7.5	8.0	-.5
BILLINGS SMSA	50.7	49.3	2.8	47.8	46.1	3.7	2.9	3.2	-.3	5.8	6.5	-.7
BALANCE OF STATE <sup>2/</sup>	257.4	243.0	5.9	237.4	221.2	7.3	20.0	21.8	-1.8	7.8	9.0	-1.2
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.6	33.2	1.2	30.9	29.7	4.0	2.7	3.5	-.8	8.1	10.6	-2.5
BOZEMAN	24.3	23.8	2.1	22.8	21.6	5.6	1.5	2.2	-.7	6.3	9.3	-3.0
GLASGOW	16.2	15.7	3.2	15.1	14.4	4.9	1.1	1.3	-.2	6.8	8.4	-1.6
GLENDIVE	13.7	13.2	3.8	13.0	12.2	6.6	.7	1.0	-.3	5.1	7.8	-2.7
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.4	11.4	0	10.5	10.3	1.9	.9	1.1	-.2	7.8	9.6	-1.8
HAVRE	12.7	12.3	3.3	11.9	11.3	5.3	.8	1.0	-.2	6.4	8.2	-1.8
HELENA	25.7	24.3	5.8	24.1	22.5	7.1	1.6	1.8	-.2	6.4	7.4	-1.0
KALISPELL	33.0	31.5	4.8	29.3	27.0	8.5	3.7	4.5	-.8	11.1	14.2	-3.1
LEWISTOWN	9.8	9.7	1.0	9.0	8.8	2.3	.8	.9	-.1	8.2	9.6	-1.4
MILES CITY	14.4	14.5	-.7	13.5	13.3	1.5	.9	1.2	-.3	6.4	9.0	-1.6
MISSOULA	46.2	43.6	6.0	42.3	38.4	10.2	3.9	5.2	-1.3	8.5	11.3	-3.4
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.3	15.6	4.5	15.0	14.1	6.4	1.3	1.5	-.2	8.1	9.3	-1.2

<sup>1/</sup> A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page.<sup>2/</sup> Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Map inside back cover.

TABLE IX  
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE, BY COUNTY  
JANUARY 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	342368	316861	25507	7.5
CASCADE	34300	31733	2567	7.5
YELLOWSTONE	50737	47816	2921	5.8
BEAVERHEAD	4135	3938	197	4.8
BIG HORN	4407	3959	448	10.2
BLAINE	2662	2600	262	9.2
BROADWATER	1421	1330	91	6.4
CAREON	3262	2983	279	8.6
CARTER	657	789	68	7.9
CHOTEAU	2601	2638	163	5.8
CUSTER	5748	5350	398	6.9
DANIELS	1368	1284	84	6.1
DAWSON	5062	4737	325	6.4
DEER LODGE	6356	5862	494	7.8
FALLON	2074	1979	95	4.6
FERGUS	5047	4655	392	7.8
FLAINTHEAD	20172	18074	2098	10.4
GALLATIN	18471	17506	965	5.2
GARFIELD	769	751	38	4.8
GLACIER	4678	4330	348	11.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	396	363	13	3.3
GRANITE	993	895	98	9.9
HILL	8776	8282	494	5.6
JEFFERSON	2604	2399	205	7.9
JUDITH BASIN	1140	995	145	12.7
LAKE	6061	5445	616	10.2
LEWIS AND CLARK	21672	20334	1338	6.2
LIBERTY	1030	973	57	5.5
LINCOLN	6724	5760	944	14.0
MC CONE	1376	1276	100	7.3
MADISON	2266	2128	138	6.1
MEACHER	770	691	79	10.3
MINERAL	1565	1324	181	12.0
MISSOULA	33878	31355	2523	7.4
MUSSELSHELL	1668	1509	159	9.5
PARK	5124	4624	500	9.8
PETROLEUM	361	291	10	3.3
PHILLIPS	2374	2244	130	5.5
PONDERA	3352	3124	228	6.8
POWDER RIVER	971	921	50	5.1
POWELL	3017	2768	249	8.3
PRAIRIE	918	867	51	5.6
RAVALLI	6337	5553	784	12.4
RICHLAND	4982	4621	161	3.2
RUSSELL	5643	5313	330	5.8
ROSEBUD	4354	4063	289	6.6
SANDERS	4463	4035	428	9.6
SHERIDAN	2261	2170	91	4.0
SILVER BLDG	16366	15313	1553	9.2
STILLWATER	2326	2212	114	4.9
SWEET GRASS	1364	1318	46	3.4
TETON	2645	2447	198	7.5
TULL	2660	2478	182	6.8
TREASURE	462	432	30	6.5
VALLEY	4525	4066	457	10.1
WHEATLAND	1268	1185	83	6.5
WILBAUX	549	529	20	3.6

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## TABLE X

## MONTANA

## FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

January 1978

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Jan. 1978 <sup>1/</sup>	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Change to Current Month From:	Total	Percent Women	December 1977	
							January 1978	Total
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers . . . . .	114.9	114.8	103.2	.1	263.8	43.6	269.7	42.6
Manufacturing . . . . .	2.7	2.8	3.2	-.1	23.7	11.4	23.7	11.8
Mining . . . . .	.3	.3	.3	0	6.6	4.5	6.6	4.5
Contract Construction . . . . .	1.1	1.1	.8	0	13.1	8.4	15.3	7.2
Transportation & Public Utilities . . . . .	3.8	3.8	3.5	0	20.7	18.4	20.7	18.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade . . . . .	31.4	31.0	26.8	.4	65.7	47.8	67.9	45.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate . . . . .	7.6	7.6	6.8	0	11.9	63.9	12.0	63.3
Services . . . . .	33.2	33.2	30.5	0	49.3	67.3	50.3	66.0
Government <sup>2/</sup> . . . . .	34.8	35.0	31.3	-.2	72.8	47.8	73.2	47.8

<sup>1/</sup> Current month preliminary.<sup>2/</sup> Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Revised to 1976 Benchmark.

Establishment Series began January 1974.

TABLE XI  
MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY  
(In Thousands)

1977

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	103.2	103.8	105.8	107.0	105.9	109.8	109.2	111.7	114.2	113.9	114.6	114.8	109.5
Manufacturing .....	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.0
Mining .....	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction.....	.8	.8	.7	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	26.8	26.7	28.0	28.8	29.0	30.6	30.2	30.2	30.6	31.1	31.4	31.0	29.5
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.2
Services .....	30.5	30.7	31.1	31.4	31.3	32.4	32.6	32.6	33.1	32.4	33.1	33.2	32.1
Government <sup>1/</sup> .....	31.3	31.8	32.3	32.3	30.8	31.6	30.9	32.9	34.6	34.4	34.4	35.0	32.7

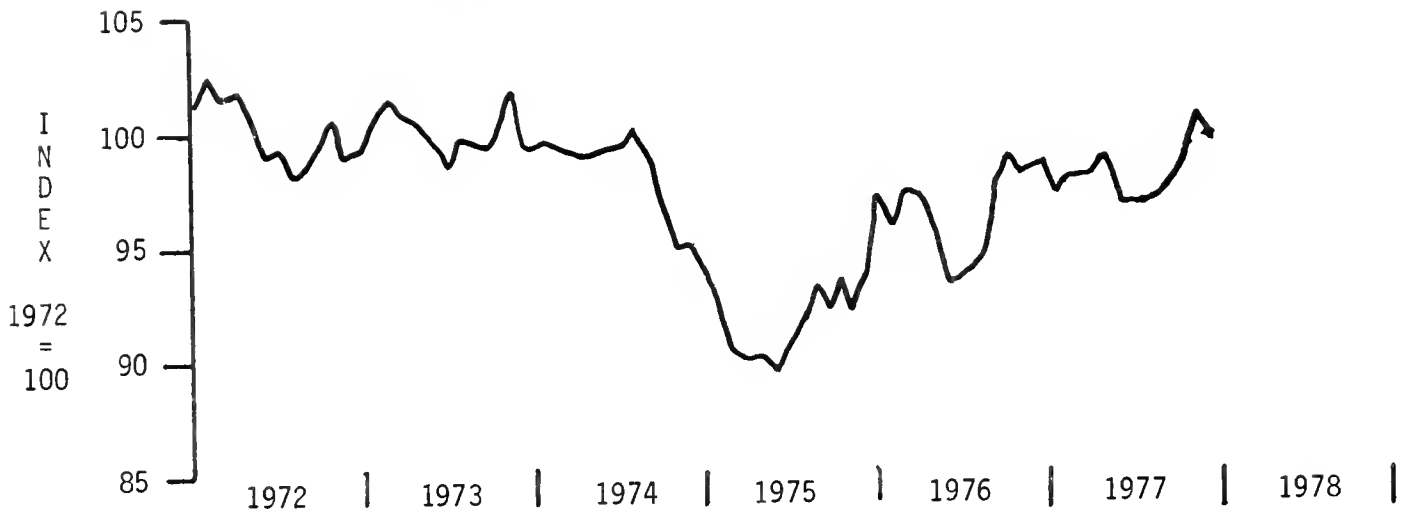
1978

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	114.9
Manufacturing .....	2.7
Mining.....	.3
Contract Construction .....	1.1
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.8
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	31.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	7.6
Services.....	33.2
Government <sup>1/</sup> .....	34.8

<sup>1/</sup> Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.  
 Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
 Revised to 1977 Benchmark.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS\* 17\*\*



Composite Index of  
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS  
1972 = 100

<u>1976</u>	
January	97.2
February	95.7
March	97.6
April	96.9
May	95.0
June	93.3
July	93.9
August	94.8
September	98.1
October	99.3
November	98.3
December	98.8
<u>1977</u>	
January	97.2
February	98.3
March	98.3
April	99.2
May	97.3
June	97.6
July	98.0
August	98.6
September	99.0
October	101.1
November	100.0
December	

### MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

Accessions, layoffs, weekly initial claims, and building permits have caused the index to decrease over last month's level. This decrease, although significant, proves to be no strain on Montana's economic profile as the index falls to 100.0. With Montana going through a tough winter and the layoffs in the mining and manufacturing industries, the index can be expected to fall during the rest of the winter months. However, the trend of the index still points to an improving economy, even with the irregular ups and downs.

\* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

\*\* *Indicates last month of plotted data.*

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS  
OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS  
(1967) DOLLARS)

Average Weekly Earnings

Real Spendable Earnings

12\*

220  
200  
180  
160  
140  
100  
90  
80  
D  
O  
L  
L  
A  
R  
S

1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978

	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1976
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$210.37	\$190.85	\$175.78
Taxes Withheld	32.25	27.25	26.58
Spendable Earnings	177.62	163.60	149.21
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	82.18	75.37	63.59
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	95.44	88.23	85.62

Average Weekly Earnings<sup>1/</sup>  
Real Spendable Earnings<sup>2/</sup>

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Year	Month	Average Weekly Earnings <sup>1/</sup>	Real Spendable Earnings <sup>2/</sup>
1976	July	172.67	85.92
	Aug.	175.69	86.77
	Sep.	178.92	87.72
	Oct.	177.79	86.90
	Nov.	175.02	85.54
	Dec.	175.78	85.62
1977	Jan.	175.94	85.17
	Feb.	176.00	84.35
	Mar.	174.94	83.40
	Apr.	178.69	84.21
	May	184.79	86.12
	June	185.26	87.77
	July	190.97	89.63
	Aug.	200.28	92.96
	Sep.	197.89	91.67
	Oct.	202.65	93.29
	Nov.	190.85	88.23
	Dec.	210.37	95.44

The erratic nature of this index, as noted in last month's publication, is primarily related to using preliminary figures. Beginning with this publication, only final figures will be used in computing this index.

Longer hours worked and larger paychecks in most all industrial sectors are the major reasons why average weekly earnings are significantly higher in December than November. This large increase - despite increased taxes and higher inflation levels - is reflected in the Real Spendable Earnings index. Wage earners enjoyed nearly a ten dollar increase over last year's levels and have earned more real money in 1967 dollars than anytime in recent history. This trend is expected to continue during the first quarter of 1978.

\* Indicates last month of plotted data.

p: Preliminary

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.





TABLE XII  
MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

RESIDENCE DATA

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						Montana	U. S.	
<u>1976</u>								
January	335.4	308.3	275.8	32.5	27.1	8.1	7.8	*
February	336.6	310.1	276.7	33.4	26.5	7.9	7.6	*
March	336.0	308.9	275.9	33.0	27.1	8.1	7.5	*
April	337.2	311.9	276.8	35.1	25.3	7.5	7.5	*
May	335.5	309.9	276.8	33.1	25.6	7.6	7.3	*
June	332.0	305.7	272.6	33.1	26.3	7.9	7.5	.1
July	341.9	314.8	280.3	34.5	27.1	7.9	7.8	.1
August	344.1	315.2	281.5	33.7	28.9	8.4	7.9	.1
September	343.9	317.8	285.0	32.8	26.1	7.6	7.8	.1
October	343.0	318.2	285.2	33.0	24.8	7.2	7.9	.1
November	346.2	322.0	288.9	33.1	24.2	7.0	8.1	.1
December	345.5	321.3	287.6	33.7	24.2	7.0	7.8	.1
1976 Avg.	339.8	313.7	280.3	33.4	26.1	7.7	7.7	.1
<u>1977</u>								
January	343.2	321.3	287.1	34.2	21.9	6.4	7.3	.1
February	347.0	324.5	289.4	35.1	22.5	6.5	7.5	.1
March	346.7	324.7	289.8	34.9	22.0	6.4	7.3	.1
April	348.5	327.0	289.7	37.3	21.5	6.2	7.0	.1
May	348.2	325.7	290.8	34.9	22.5	6.5	6.9	.1
June	343.1	324.4	289.4	35.0	18.7	5.4	7.1	.2
July	353.2	331.9	295.7	36.2	21.3	6.0	6.9	3.3
August	360.3	336.7	301.5	35.2	23.6	6.6	7.1	.2
September	357.2	334.6	300.9	33.7	22.6	6.3	6.9	.1
October	357.2	335.5	302.1	33.4	21.7	6.1	7.0	.5
November	358.1	337.5	304.2	33.3	20.6	5.7	6.9	.1
December	355.9	336.0	302.3	33.7	19.9	5.6	6.4	.2
1977 Avg.	351.6	330.0	295.3	34.7	21.6	6.1	7.0	.4
<u>1978</u>								
January	361.0	341.3	307.2	34.1	19.7	5.5	6.3	.2
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

<sup>1/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

<sup>2/</sup> Non-additive - included in total employment

\* Under 50.

Series began January 1970  
Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.  
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

## RESIDENCE DATA

TABLE XIII  
 GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)  
 Civilian Labor Force  
 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
 (in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						County	State	
<u>1976</u>								
January	32.0	29.3	28.0	1.3	2.7	8.5	8.1	*
February	32.1	29.4	28.1	1.3	2.7	8.3	7.9	*
March	32.6	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.8	8.6	8.1	*
April	32.4	29.8	28.4	1.4	2.6	8.2	7.5	*
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	7.7	7.6	*
June	32.7	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.8	8.6	7.9	*
July	32.6	29.8	28.4	1.4	2.8	8.5	7.9	*
August	32.9	30.1	28.7	1.4	2.8	8.5	8.4	*
September	32.5	30.0	28.7	1.3	2.5	7.6	7.6	*
October	32.9	30.4	29.1	1.3	2.5	7.5	7.2	*
November	33.4	31.0	29.7	1.3	2.4	7.3	7.0	*
December	31.4	29.1	27.8	1.3	2.3	7.2	7.0	*
1976 Avg.	32.5	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.6	8.0	7.7	*
<u>1977</u>								
January	33.8	31.6	30.2	1.4	2.2	6.5	6.4	*
February	33.8	31.8	30.4	1.4	2.0	5.8	6.5	*
March	33.8	31.9	30.5	1.4	1.9	5.6	6.4	*
April	34.1	32.1	30.6	1.5	2.0	5.8	6.2	*
May	34.0	32.1	30.7	1.4	1.9	5.5	6.5	*
June	34.1	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.6	4.7	5.4	*
July	34.5	32.6	31.2	1.4	1.9	5.6	6.0	.8
August	34.7	32.6	31.2	1.4	2.1	6.2	6.6	*
September	35.1	32.8	31.5	1.3	2.3	6.5	6.3	*
October	35.5	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.3	6.5	6.1	.4
November	35.0	33.0	31.7	1.3	2.0	5.7	5.7	*
December	34.9	32.7	31.4	1.3	2.2	6.2	5.6	*
1977 Avg.	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.1	.1
<u>1978</u>								
January	35.9	33.7	32.3	1.4	2.2	6.1	5.5	*
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

\* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XIV  
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)  
Civilian Labor Force  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED  
(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute <sup>2/</sup>
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent <sup>1/</sup>		
						County	State	
<u>1976</u>								
January	47.3	44.2	42.7	1.5	3.1	6.6	8.1	*
February	47.9	44.9	43.4	1.5	3.0	6.2	7.9	*
March	48.1	45.1	43.6	1.5	3.0	6.2	8.1	*
April	49.8	46.8	45.2	1.6	3.0	6.0	7.5	*
May	48.7	46.0	44.5	1.5	2.7	5.7	7.6	*
June	49.5	46.4	44.8	1.6	3.1	6.2	7.9	*
July	49.3	46.3	44.8	1.5	3.0	6.1	7.9	*
August	49.5	46.5	44.9	1.6	3.0	6.1	8.4	*
September	51.0	48.2	46.7	1.5	2.8	5.6	7.6	*
October	50.0	47.2	45.7	1.5	2.8	5.6	7.2	*
November	50.3	47.5	46.0	1.5	2.8	5.5	7.0	*
December	50.5	47.7	46.2	1.5	2.8	5.6	7.0	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.9	1.5	2.9	5.9	7.7	*
<u>1977</u>								
January	50.8	48.2	46.7	1.5	2.6	5.2	6.4	*
February	51.8	49.1	47.5	1.6	2.7	5.3	6.5	*
March	52.0	49.7	48.1	1.6	2.3	4.4	6.4	*
April	51.8	49.4	47.7	1.7	2.4	4.7	6.2	*
May	51.6	49.0	47.4	1.6	2.6	5.1	6.5	*
June	50.6	48.8	47.2	1.6	1.8	3.6	5.4	*
July	51.2	49.2	47.6	1.6	2.0	3.9	6.0	.1
August	52.3	50.0	48.3	1.7	2.3	4.4	6.6	.1
September	53.7	51.2	49.6	1.6	2.5	4.6	6.3	.1
October	52.6	50.0	48.5	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.1	.1
November	52.5	50.1	48.6	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.7	.1
December	52.0	49.8	48.3	1.5	2.2	4.2	5.6	.1
1977 Avg.	51.9	49.5	47.9	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.1	*
<u>1978</u>								
January	52.2	49.9	48.4	1.5	2.3	4.5	5.5	.1
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

<sup>1/</sup> Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

<sup>2/</sup> Non-additive - included in total employment.

\* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

## MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

## For Private Nonagricultural Industries

January 1978

	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u>		<u>Average Weekly Hours</u>		<u>Average Hourly Earnings</u>				
	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977			
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$210.39	\$210.37	\$175.94	36.4	35.9	35.4	\$5.78	\$5.86	\$4.97
MANUFACTURING	324.61	315.24	254.58	42.6	42.6	42.5	7.62	7.40	5.99
Durable Goods	327.42	317.95	257.83	42.8	43.2	43.7	7.65	7.36	5.90
Primary Metal Industries	323.61	313.94	289.87	40.3	40.3	41.0	8.03	7.79	7.07
Nondurable Goods	311.40	309.34	247.78	41.3	41.3	39.9	7.54	7.49	6.21
Food and Kindred Products	247.96	245.95	218.54	42.9	42.7	40.1	5.78	5.76	5.45
MINING	378.63	381.87	326.70	42.4	43.1	43.1	8.93	8.86	7.58
Metal Mining	450.11	450.11	318.10	43.7	43.7	42.3	10.30	10.30	7.52
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	437.53	432.20	319.77	32.7	33.4	37.4	13.38	12.94	8.55
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	314.81	314.81	280.16	42.6	42.6	41.2	7.39	7.39	6.80
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	271.57	272.21	253.97	42.7	42.8	40.7	6.36	6.36	6.24
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	154.80	156.13	143.59	34.4	32.8	34.6	4.50	4.76	4.15
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	143.98	143.93	131.39	37.3	37.3	36.7	3.86	3.86	3.58
SERVICES	134.52	134.52	107.68	33.8	33.8	29.5	3.98	3.98	3.65

Data for current month are preliminary.

Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.

Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

December 1977

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	Total		New Hires		Total		Quits		Layoffs						
	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1976		
MANUFACTURING	2.1	1.8	2.3	1.7	1.3	1.7	1.9	4.1	3.3	1.0	1.3	1.2	0.5	2.3	1.6
Durable Goods	1.7	1.4	1.8	1.3	0.8	1.2	1.6	2.3	2.7	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.5	1.3	1.4
Primary Metal Industries	2.5	1.0	2.9	1.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	3.0	1.1	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.6	*
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.6	3.2	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.3	7.1	4.2	1.6	2.4	1.7	0.4	4.1	1.8
MINING	0.4	2.9	2.4	0.1	0.6	1.2	4.3	4.4	1.1	3.2	2.8	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2
Metal Mining	1.2	1.8	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.4	2.9	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.2	0.1

\* Less than .05.

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
Series began January 1959.

TABLE XVII  
NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA  
BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Jan.</u> <u>1978</u>	<u>Jan.</u> <u>1977</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
			<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	39	29	39	29
MINING	6	20	6	20
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	60	49	60	49
MANUFACTURING	17	8	17	8
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	14	7	14	7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	96	73	96	73
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	47	27	47	27
SERVICES	129	109	129	109
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	1	1	1	1
STATE TOTAL	409	323	409	323

TABLE XVIII  
NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA  
BY LABOR MARKET AREA

<u>NEW BUSINESS FIRMS</u>					<u>NEW BUSINESS FIRMS</u>				
<u>Areas</u>	Jan.	Jan.	<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>Areas</u>	Jan.	Jan.	<u>Year to Date</u>	
	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>		<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>
STATE OF MONTANA	409	323	409	323	HAVRE LMA	12	8	12	8
GREAT FALLS SMSA	39	27	39	27	Blaine	1	0	1	0
BILLINGS SMSA	66	43	66	43	Hill	7	1	7	1
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	29	39	29	39	Liberty	4	7	4	7
Beaverhead	2	2	2	2	HELENA LMA	25	15	25	15
Deer Lodge	4	0	4	0	Broadwater	0	0	0	0
Granite	2	0	2	0	Jefferson	2	0	2	0
Madison	6	2	6	2	Lewis and Clark	23	15	23	15
Powell	4	0	4	0	KALISPELL LMA	52	38	52	38
Silver Bow	11	35	11	35	Flathead	33	18	33	18
BOZEMAN LMA	37	34	37	34	Lake	14	12	14	12
Gallatin	26	21	26	21	Lincoln	5	8	5	8
Meagher	1	1	1	1	LEWISTOWN LMA	7	7	7	7
Park	10	12	10	12	Fergus	2	7	2	7
GLASGOW LMA	11	13	11	13	Golden Valley	0	0	0	0
Daniels	2	0	2	0	Judith Basin	0	0	0	0
Phillips	2	1	2	1	Musselshell	2	0	2	0
Roosevelt	3	1	3	1	Petroleum	1	0	1	0
Sheridan	2	4	2	4	Wheatland	2	0	2	0
Valley	2	7	2	7	MILES CITY LMA	11	11	11	11
GLENDIVE LMA	11	6	11	6	Carter	1	2	1	2
Dawson	7	1	7	1	Custer	6	6	6	6
Garfield	0	2	0	2	Fallon	1	1	1	1
McCone	0	0	0	0	Powder River	0	0	0	0
Prairie	3	1	3	1	Rosebud	3	2	3	2
Richland	1	2	1	2	Treasure	0	0	0	0
Wibaux	0	0	0	0	MISSOULA LMA	73	51	73	51
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	13	5	13	5	Mineral	1	0	1	0
Big Horn	4	3	4	3	Missoula	58	42	58	42
Carbon	8	1	8	1	Ravalli	9	7	9	7
Stillwater	0	1	0	1	Sanders	5	2	5	2
Sweet Grass	1	0	1	0	SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	23	26	23	26
					Chouteau	6	0	6	0
					Glacier	4	2	4	2
					Pondera	5	13	5	13
					Teton	4	2	4	2
					Toole	4	9	4	9

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.





UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified.\* Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

*\* If sufficient wage credits have been secured by a claimant from sources other than insured employment, he may be eligible for benefits which are financed wholly or partially from federal funds.*

TABLE XIX

## DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

JANUARY 1978 COUNTY	NO. OF PAYS	INTRASTATE AMT. OF PAYS
BEAVERHEAD	412	33,370.02
BIG HORN	609	50,034.54
BLAINE	368	29,182.04
BROADWATER	166	12,958.88
CARBON	432	36,363.00
CARTER	109	8,263.00
CASCADE	4,506	360,292.51
CHOCUTEAU	147	10,228.00
CUSTER	730	60,827.68
DANIELS	91	6,551.00
DAWSON	460	37,704.75
DEER LODGE	1,031	85,175.44
FALLON	169	12,286.00
FERGUS	822	66,210.12
FLATHEAD	3,214	245,290.77
GALLATIN	1,722	133,472.13
GARFIELD	56	4,106.45
GLACIER	766	62,454.56
GOLDEN VALLEY	17	1,454.00
GRANITE	129	9,496.00
HILL	813	62,355.12
JEFFERSON	400	34,201.00
JUDITH BASIN	216	20,003.42
LAKE	1,035	79,589.97
LEWIS & CLARK	2,662	219,746.59
LIBERTY	81	6,723.00
LINCOLN	1,091	78,465.08
MADISON	117	9,528.00
MCCONE	106	8,508.00
MEAGHER	116	9,338.13
MINERAL	304	25,296.35
MISSOULA	3,793	288,812.68
MUSSELSHELL	228	19,997.00
PARK	689	50,840.98
PETROLEUM	7	707.00
PHILLIPS	202	15,246.00
PONDERA	287	24,424.00
POWDER RIVER	28	2,804.00
POWELL	416	30,746.36
PRAIRIE	107	10,214.00
RAVALLI	1,107	81,539.30
RICHLAND	203	16,063.00
ROOSEVELT	299	20,875.68
ROSEBUD	515	40,817.76
SANDERS	793	64,344.94
SHERIDAN	105	7,164.00
SILVER BOW	2,929	230,014.62
STILLWATER	200	16,756.76
SWEETGRASS	63	4,785.00
TETON	237	19,398.48
TOOLE	260	19,220.07
TREASURE	49	4,949.00
VALLEY	771	60,977.13
WHEATLAND	106	8,558.00
WIBAUX	16	1,330.00
YELLOWSTONE	4,965	406,590.24
TOTAL FOR STATE	41,272	3,266,652.70
INTERSTATE	2,942	359,237.97
TOTAL	44,214	3,625,890.67

TABLE XX

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE		
JANUARY 1978		INTRASTATE
COUNTY	NO. OF PAYS	AMT. OF PAYS
BEAVERHEAD	412	33,370.02
BIG HORN	609	50,034.54
BLAINE	368	29,182.04
BROADWATER	166	12,958.88
CARBON	432	36,363.00
CARTER	109	8,263.00
CASCADE	4,506	360,292.51
CHOCUTEAU	147	10,228.00
CUSTER	730	60,827.68
DANIELS	91	6,551.00
DAWSON	460	37,704.75
DEER LODGE	1,031	85,175.44
FALLON	169	12,286.00
FERGUS	822	66,210.12
FLATHEAD	3,214	245,290.77
GALLATIN	1,722	133,472.13
GARFIELD	56	4,106.45
GLACIER	766	62,454.56
GOLDEN VALLEY	17	1,454.00
GRANITE	129	9,496.00
HILL	313	62,355.12
JEFFERSON	400	34,201.00
JUDITH BASIN	216	20,003.42
LAKE	1,035	79,589.97
LEWIS & CLARK	2,662	219,746.59
LIBERTY	81	6,723.00
LINCOLN	1,091	78,465.08
MADISON	117	9,528.00
MCCONE	106	8,508.00
MEAGHER	116	9,338.13
MINERAL	304	25,296.85
MISSOULA	3,793	288,812.68
MUSSELSHELL	228	19,997.00
PARK	689	50,840.88
PETROLEUM	7	707.00
PHILLIPS	202	15,246.00
PONDERA	287	24,424.00
POWDER RIVER	28	2,804.00
POWELL	416	30,746.36
PRAIRIE	107	10,214.00
RAVALLI	1,107	81,539.30
RICHLAND	203	16,063.00
ROOSEVELT	299	20,875.68
ROSEBUD	515	40,817.76
SANDERS	793	64,344.94
SHERIDAN	105	7,164.00
SILVER BOW	2,929	230,014.62
STILLWATER	200	16,756.76
SWEETGRASS	63	4,785.00
TETON	237	19,398.48
TOOLE	260	19,220.07
TREASURE	49	4,949.00
VALLEY	771	60,977.88
WHEATLAND	106	8,558.00
WIBAUX	16	1,330.00
YELLOWSTONE	4,965	406,590.24
TOTAL FOR STATE	41,272	3,266,652.70
INTERSTATE	2,942	359,237.97
TOTAL	44,214	3,625,890.67

TABLE XXI

## SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

	YEAR-TO-DATE			
	1978	1977	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims <sup>1/</sup>	6,557	7,295	-738	-10.1
Continued Claims <sup>1/</sup>	54,911	52,268	2,643	5.1
Number of Benefit Payments <sup>1/</sup>	44,208	44,073	135	0.3
Amount of Benefits Paid <sup>1/</sup>	\$3,646,789	\$3,379,344	\$267,445	7.9
Average Weekly Benefit Amount <sup>1/2/</sup>	\$89.01	\$80.25	\$8.76	10.9

	MONTHLY					
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Change From Year Ago		
	1978	1977	1977	Net	Percent	
Initial Claims <sup>1/</sup>	6,557	4,933	7,295	-738	-10.1	
Continued Claims <sup>1/</sup>	54,911	49,386	52,268	2,643	5.1	
Number of Benefit Payments <sup>1/</sup>	44,208	34,226	44,073	135	0.3	
Amount of Benefits Paid <sup>1/</sup>	\$3,646,789	\$2,633,652	\$3,379,344	\$267,445	7.9	
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt <sup>1/2/</sup>	\$89.01	\$80.81	\$80.25	\$8.76	10.9	
Trust Fund Balance	-\$5,214,409*	-\$2,404,503*	-\$2,438,867**	-\$2,775,542	-113.8	

<sup>1/</sup> Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.

<sup>2/</sup> Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

\* Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to \$9,284,089.

\*\* Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to \$3,649,089.

At the start of the new year, initial and continued claims totals are again continuing their upward movement due to the winter season. This is portrayed by the increase from December to January. Initial claims show a decrease from one year ago, whereas continued claims have increased slightly. The new coverage extended to agricultural and domestic workers on January 1, 1978 resulted in no significant addition to regular unemployment insurance claims.

The number of benefit payments and the amount of benefits paid continued their steady climb as reflected in the increase from December of last year to January of this year. Both statistics show a slight increase from January of last year.

The average weekly benefit amount increased from December and January of a year ago. This seasonal jump is probably due to a greater percentage of claimants receiving the maximum benefit amount.

The trust fund balance is continuing its negative slide through the winter due to increased benefit payments and a decrease in collections.



LABOR MARKET AREAS

III

of 1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

1971 Year

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY  
P. O. BOX 1726  
Reference Number 5E571

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